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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/734,554	12/12/2003	Raja Neogi	42P18176	2435

8791 7590 03/15/2006

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EXAMINER

BROWN, VERNAL U

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2635

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/734,554

Applicant(s)

NEOGI, RAJA

Examiner

Vernal U. Brown

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

The application of Raja Neogi for System and Method to control appliances using adaptive interfaces filed December 12, 2003 has been examined. Claims 1-27 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2, 5-7, 10-11, 14-16, 19-20, and 22-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi US patent Application Publication 20050256590 in view of Yamamoto et al. US Patent 6970539.

Regarding claims 1, 7, 10, 16, Choi teaches establishing a session between a remote control (40) and a media center (10); authenticating a user at the media center to determine a user interface and an execution environment for the device; Choi teaches sending the user interface to the remote control (step 560 and S570 in figure 5A). Choi also teaches receiving a command at the media center from the user via the remote in the form of request for data (paragraph 0020). Choi is silent on teaching sending the user interface and the execution environment to the device. Yamamoto et al. in an art related remote control system teaches a media center transmitting the control information to the appliance based on the users selection (col. 2 lines 51-56).

is this
control info
equal to a
user interface?

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to send the user selected interface and the execution environment over to the appliance in Choi because

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allows the appliance to be provided with the necessary information to execute the user's instruction.

Regarding claims 2, 11, Choi teaches the remote control, the device, and the media center are connected via a wireless network (paragraph 007).

Regarding claims 5-6 and 14-15, Choi teaches downloading control data to the remote control as illustrated in figure 5A. The data to be downloaded is selected by the user (paragraph 0020). The downloaded data is considered modification data because the functions of the remote control are modified based on the downloaded data.

Regarding claims 19, 25-26, Choi teaches establishing a session between a remote control (40) and a media center (10); authenticating a user at the media center to determine a user interface and an execution environment for the device; Choi teaches sending the user interface to the remote control (step 560 and S570 in figure 5A). Choi also teaches receiving a command at the media center from the user via the remote in the form of request for data (paragraph 0020). Choi is silent on teaching sending the user interface and the execution environment to the device. Yamamoto et al. in an art related remote control system teaches a media center transmitting the control information to the appliance based on the users selection (col. 2 lines 51-56). The method of downloading data to the remote control and device is performed by computers therefore a machine-readable medium for carrying out the download function is inherently included.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to send the user selected interface and the execution environment over to the appliance in Choi because allows the appliance to be provided with the necessary information to execute the user's instruction.

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Regarding claim 20, Choi teaches the remote control, the device, and the media center are connected via a wireless network (paragraph 007).

Regarding claims 23-24, Choi teaches downloading control data to the remote control as illustrated in figure 5A. The data to be downloaded is selected by the user (paragraph 0020). The downloaded data is considered modification data because the functions of the remote control are modified based on the downloaded data.

Claims 3-4, 12-13, and 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi US patent Application Publication 20050256590 in view of Yamamoto et al. US Patent 6970539 and further in view of Pasternak US Patent Application 20040122930.

Regarding claims 3-4, 12-13, 21-22 Choi teaches downloading data to the handheld remote control (paragraph 0019) but is not explicit in teaching the remote control device is 802.11b compatible. One skilled in the art recognizes that 802.11b represents a standard wireless interface evidenced by Pasternak (paragraph 0018).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for the remote control to 802.11b compatible because 802.11b interface represent a standard interface used in wireless devices and the standard interface allows the remote control to be compatible with other wireless devices.

Claims 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi US patent Application Publication 20050256590 in view of Yamamoto et al. US

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Patent 6970539 and further in view of Witkowski et al. US Patent Application 20040110472.

Regarding claims 8 and 17, Choi teaches downloading data to the handheld remote control (paragraph 0019) but is silent on teaching the data is downloaded from the manufacture website. One skilled in the art recognizes that configuration information for a device is sometimes available on the device manufacturer website as evidenced by Witkowski et al. (paragraph 0076).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to download the remote control data from the device manufacture website because this allows the manufacturer to control what remote control codes available to the public.

Claims 18 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi US patent Application Publication 20050256590 in view of Yamamoto et al. US Patent 6970539 and further in view of Barone et al. US Patent 5315711.

Regarding claims 18 and 27, Choi teaches the media center receiving the command from the user (paragraph 0020) but is silent on teaching the media center saves a trace for the command. Barone et al. in an art related remote control system teaches a function for recalling a previous entered command (col. 8 lines 54-65), which is the functional equivalent to the trace command.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a trace command in Choi because this provides a convenient function for recalling a previously executed function.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vernal U. Brown whose telephone number is 571-272-3060. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-7:00 Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 571-272-3998. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Vernal Brown
March 8, 2006



BRIAN ZIMMERMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER